

## **GLOSSARY**



## GLOSSARY

- Adobe:** Wet clay mixture used for mortar or sun-dried bricks in the Southwest, sometimes reinforced with fiber.
- Agribusiness:** Farming and the businesses associated with farming, such as the processing of farm products and manufacturing of farm equipment, fertilizers, etc.
- Agriculture:** The science and art of farming, including cultivation of the ground to produce crops, gardening, and the raising of livestock.
- Altar:** Raised earth or wooden platform on the western interior of an earthlodge where the Pawnee honored bison. A sacred bundle hung above.
- Animal husbandry:** The care and raising of domesticated animals, such as cattle, horses, sheep, etc.
- Annual:** A plant that lives for only one season or year.
- Anthropology:** The study of human beings inclusive of all physical and cultural attributes. Traditionally, anthropology includes the subfields of physical and cultural anthropology, linguistics, folklore, and archeology.
- Archeology** (also spelled archaeology): The study of human beings in the past, using techniques and methods centered on the examination and interpretation of physical remains left behind by past cultures. In the United States archeology is a subfield of anthropology.
- Architecture:** The art, profession, or science of designing and constructing buildings.
- Aridity:** The state or quality of being dry or parched.
- Arikara:** A tribe forming the northern group of the Caddoan linguistic family, differing only in dialect from the Pawnee. Arikara ancestors may have migrated with Pawnee ancestors to the Great Plains.
- Artifact:** Any object that shows evidence of use or alteration by humans.
- Artist:** One who is skilled in or works in any of the fine arts.
- Ash** (*Fraxinus* sp.): A kind of olive tree, used by the Pawnee for pipe stems, toy bows, and gaming hoops.
- Ashlar:** Cut stone that forms the outside facing of a wall. "Broken ashlar" is composed of irregular sizes of stones, laid in either "broken" or "random" courses.
- Asteraceae:** An order of plants to which asters and sunflowers belong.
- Awaru:** The Walking Around ceremony, a Pawnee woman's dance held in spring. Dancers used special tools to "hoe" as they danced.
- Awl:** A pointed instrument used for piercing small holes in leather, wood, etc.
- Balloon framing:** Structural framework, evolved about 1830, using standard lightweight lumber, with 2 x 4-inch studs extending from foundation to roof. Made possible by the availability of inexpensive nails, this method eliminated the need for heavy timbers and braced framing. After World War II, balloon framing was generally replaced by the western or platform frame, constructed one story at a time.
- Barbed wire:** Wire for fences or barriers, having sharp points of metal twisted into the strands at regular intervals.
- Barometer:** An instrument for measuring atmospheric pressure and thus for forecasting the weather.
- Barrow:** A castrated male domesticated swine (hog or pig).
- Beehive:** Conical; one of the three shapes of vernacular houses, such as a grass house.
- Bent frame:** A support structure of saplings, set into firm ground, then bent and tied together to make a domical form.
- Biodiversity:** Variety of living organisms.
- Biomass:** The total amount of living organisms in a particular area or volume.
- Biome:** Broadly defined type of habitat, sharing certain characteristics. Tundra, forest, desert, and grassland are examples.
- Bioregion:** A geographical province defined by its unique life forms.
- Bison:** Large, cow-like animal. Wichita and Pawnee peoples used the bison as a source of food and materials for tools, clothing, and shelter.

**Bison skull:** Skeleton of bison head. The Pawnee believed the bison was a special gift sent them by the spirits, and a bison skull was placed on the altar at the western side of the earthlodge.

**Black Star:** Usually called Big Black Meteoric Star, a northeastern star associated with that direction in the Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify this star as Sirius.

**Bluestem** (*Andropogon* sp.): A warm-season prairie grass. Big bluestem is found on tall- and mixed-grass prairies and requires more moisture than little bluestem, which is found in mixed- and short-grass prairies.

**Boar:** An uncastrated male hog.

**Bohemia:** A province in western Czechoslovakia, bordered by Austria on the southeast, Germany on the west and northwest, Poland on the north and northeast, and Moravia on the east. The traditional capital is Prague.

**Box elder** (*Acer negundo*): A kind of maple tree associated with the southwest direction in the Pawnee belief system.

**Brooder house:** A covered structure, artificially heated, for raising young fowl without a hen.

**Brown Swiss:** A strong, muscular, placid breed of dairy cattle from the Alps region of Europe.

**Buckskin:** Tanned deer skin.

**Buffalo:** Name sometimes used for bison.

**Built environment:** Standing manmade structures and their environs.

**Bull:** An adult male bovine (ox, cow, or similar animal), used for breeding.

**Butt joint:** The simplest joint between two pieces of wood where two perpendicular boards are abutted and fastened.

**Butterfly milkweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*): Also called butterfly weed, butterfly flower, Canada root, chigger flower, chigger weed, fluxroot, Indian nosy, Indian-paintbrush, orange milkweed, orange apocynum, orangeroot, orange swallow-wort, pleurisy root, rubber root, silkweed, swallow-wort, tuber root, white root, wind root, a conspicuous wildflower that grows in prairie soils, open woodlands, roadsides, and disturbed areas.

**Cabinetmaker:** One whose business is making cabinets and similar furniture.

**Cache pit:** A hole dug in the ground and usually specially prepared to store dried foods. Wichita pits were usually bell-shaped and concealed from enemies. The Pawnee dug bell-shaped pits, carefully lined and sealed, for storage of dried meat and vegetables.

**Caddoan:** Linguistic family that includes Pawnee, Arikara, and Wichita.

**Calabash:** A gourd.

**Calf:** An infant bovine of either sex.

**Cancellous:** Having a spongy or porous structure, such as the interior latticelike tissue of bone.

**Candle:** To examine eggs by holding them in front of a light, originally that of a candle. Light shining through the egg shows how fresh it is, whether it has been fertilized, etc.

**Capon:** A rooster castrated for the purpose of meat production.

**Cardinal directions:** North, south, east, and west.

**Carpentry:** The art that consists of the theoretical and practical knowledge necessary to properly execute all classes of structural work composed of wood.

**Cartography:** The art or practice of making charts or maps.

**Cave:** As applied to a manmade structure, a subterranean structure for food storage and storm protection; sometimes called a root cellar.

**Cellar:** A room or group of rooms below ground level, usually under a building.

**Central Plains Tradition:** Gardening, bison-hunting peoples who followed the Woodland hunter-gatherers in the archeological sequence of the Central Plains around A.D. 1000. The people lived in hamlets of substantial earth-covered dwellings.

**Ceres:** Roman goddess of agriculture (Greek Demeter).

**Chert:** A dense, hard, siliceous rock that occurs as beds and as nodules in limestones and shales.

**Cheyenne:** A Plains Indian tribe that inhabited the upper Mississippi region before A.D. 1700. Later they drifted west and south into the High Plains and sometimes raided earthlodge villages.

**Chick:** A young chicken.

**Chlorophyll:** Green coloring matter visible in leaves and present in all growing plants.

**Churn:** A container in which cream or milk is beaten, stirred, and shaken to form butter.

**Cloning:** The technique of producing genetically identical duplicates by asexual reproduction directly from a single organism.

**Clouds:** One of the four Messengers of Evening Star and the natural element associated with the southeast direction in the Pawnee belief system.

**Clytie:** Mortal woman whom the gods turned into a sunflower.

**Cole:** Any variety of plants of the genus *Brassica*, including cabbage, rape, etc.

**Colt:** A male horse under the age of four.

**Compression:** Structural type that is self-supporting because individual elements distribute loads in all directions.

**Confederacy:** A political alliance for offense or defense.

**Context:** The relationship between an element and its setting; for example, grass (the element) in relationship to the prairie (setting).

**Contractor:** Person whose business is contracting to erect buildings.

**Cordage:** Animal or plant material fabricated into cords.

**Cordgrass** (*Spartina pectinata*): A prairie bunch grass that could be used in building grass houses and earthlodges.

**Corn** (*Zea mays*): Also called maize, a grain that grows in kernels on ears. See also Holy Corn and Mother Corn.

**Corn crib:** A ventilated structure for holding corn for drying prior to shelling, usually made of slats and somewhat elevated from the ground.

**Coronado** (Francisco Vázquez de Coronado): A Spanish explorer who made an expedition into southwestern North America. In 1541, while searching for the fabled land of Quivira, he found the Wichita in the vicinity of the great bend of the Arkansas River.

**Cottonwood** (*Populus deltoides*): A kind of poplar tree associated with the northwest direction in the Pawnee belief system. Traditionally, earthlodges had four cottonwood center posts, placed at each semicardinal direction.

**Course:** A horizontal layer of stone or brick.

**Cow:** An adult female bovine.

**Cradleboard:** A baby carrier with a wooden frame.

**Craftsperson:** One skilled in a manual occupation or trade.

**Crandall:** A stone-dressing tool, resembling a hammer with the head made up of sharp steel bars.

**Cream separator:** A machine that has a rapidly revolving drum, separating cream from skim milk by centrifugal (moving away from the center) action.

**Crown molding:** A shaped strip of wood, installed around the upper part of the walls of a room for ornament or as support from which to hang pictures.

**Cultivation:** Preparing and using land for growing crops; breaking up surface soil around plants in order to destroy weeds, prevent crusting, and preserve moisture.

**Cultural blueprint:** Learned patterns of thinking and behaving, shared by members of a cultural group.

**Culture:** A learned set of habits and traditions, passed from generation to generation. Culture gives a set of rules to live by that assure basic needs (such as food) will be met and that children will be protected and taught the way life is lived. Language, clothing, childrearing, work, and play are all part of culture.

**Cure:** As applies to mortar, to dry and harden.

**Daub:** Lumps of low-fired ceramic with stick and grass impressions resulting from the burning of a structure that was all or partially plastered with mud or clay.

**Demeter:** Greek goddess of agriculture (Roman Ceres).

**Dextrose:** Crystalline sugar found in plants, animals, and humans and made commercially by the reaction of starch and sulfuric acid.

**Diagnostic artifact:** Artifact that is distinctive of a particular time period or culture.

**Digging stick:** A straight wooden tool for loosening the ground.

**Dionysus:** Greek god of the vines (Roman Bacchus).

**Dogwood** (*Cornus* sp.): A tree or shrub used by the Pawnee for arrow shafts, tent pegs, and in the Mother Corn ceremony.

**Domain:** Territory over which influence is exerted.

**Domestication:** Taming of plants or animals.

**Domical:** Round or dome-shaped form.

**Dovetail joint:** A joint in which a wedge-shaped projection (dovetail) fits tightly into a corresponding slot (dovetail mortise).

**Draft animals:** Animals used for pulling heavy loads.

**Dressed stone:** Shaped, finished building stone, given a surface treatment that smooths, polishes, or uniformly marks the visible surface.

**Dry sink:** Basin connected with a drainpipe but lacking a companion source of fresh water.

**Durability:** Ability to last or endure.

**Duroc:** Medium-sized United States breed of pig.

**Earthlodge:** Substantial dwelling made of wooden framework, thatched with grass, and covered with earth.

**Eave:** The edge of a roof of a building, which usually overhangs the wall and casts off water that falls on the roof.

**Ecology:** Study of relationship of organisms with their environment.

**Ecosystem:** The complex of a community and its environment, forming a functioning whole in nature.

**Ecotype:** A biological group that maintains its identity through isolation and environmental selection, more or less equivalent to a taxonomic subspecies.

**Elm** (*Ulmus* sp.): A kind of tree associated with the northeast direction in the Pawnee belief system. Elm bark was important as cordage in the earthlodge building process.

**Emigrant tribes:** Indian tribes of present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin that were coerced into surrendering their lands and moving beyond the Mississippi River to what is now Kansas during the 1820s, 1830s, and 1840s. By the early 1870s only several hundred Kickapoos, Potawatomis, Chippewas, Munsees, Iowas, Sacs, and a few others remained.

**Emigration:** To leave one country, state, or region and settle in another.

**Ensilage:** Green fodder (dry, course food for livestock), preserved by packing in a silo. See silage.

**Entrada:** Spanish expedition.

**Environment:** The physical character of an area, including its plants, animals, inorganic resources, topography, climate, etc., which influence a society's life and development.

**Ethnic:** Pertaining to the basic divisions or groups of peoples as distinguished by customs, characteristics, language, etc.

**Ethnobotany:** The study of the uses of plants by a culture.

**Ethnography:** Study that describes and categorizes human beings.

**Ethnohistory:** Study of humans through research in historical documents.

**Etymologist:** One who studies the origin or history of words.

**Evening Star:** Goddess of the Eternal Garden in the West and mate of Morning Star in the Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify this star as Venus (at least part of the year).

**Excavation:** In archeology, the systematic, controlled, and recorded removal of earth.

**Extended family:** A social unit, consisting of parents and children along with other relatives, living in one household.

**Farm:** A piece of land on which crops or animals are raised.

**Farmstead:** Generally the buildings and land on a farm; especially the area surrounding the farmhouse.

**Fauna:** Animal life of a special environment, region, or time period.

**Feather:** In construction, a metal wedge.

**Feature:** In archeology, non-artifactual evidence of use or alteration by humans that is worth noting within an archeological site, such as a hearth, posthole, or cluster of artifacts.

**Filly:** A female horse under the age of four.

**First Thunder:** See Spring Awakening.

**Flint:** A variety of chert.

**Flora:** Plant life of a special environment, region, or time period.

**Foal:** Newborn horse of either sex.

**Folk music:** Music made and handed down among the common people.

**Food web:** A interdependent network of living organisms within an environment.

**Forb:** Non-woody, non-grass broad-leaved flowering plant, such as sunflower and milkweed.

**Foundation:** The base or supporting part of a house, wall, etc.

**Fructose:** Crystalline sugar found in sweet fruits and honey.

**Fruitage:** Harvests of domesticated crops.

**Fryer:** A young chicken, suitable for frying.

**Gable:** The triangle formed by the sloping edges of a structure's roof and the horizontal line from eave to eave.

**Gallery forest:** Corridor of trees found along banks of streams and rivers on the prairie.

**Garden:** A piece of ground for the cultivation of vegetables, herbs, fruits, etc.

**Gelding:** A castrated (gelded) male horse.

**Geomorphology:** The study of the form and structure of topographic features; a subdiscipline of physical geography.

**Gilt:** A young female pig that has not given birth.

**Gourd** (*Cucurbita* sp.): Trailing or climbing plant of the cucumber family that produces bitter hollow fruits. The Pawnee cultivated gourds and used them as containers, rattles, etc. See also rattles.

**Grand Pawnee:** One of the three South Bands of the Pawnee tribe.

**Grass house:** A beehive or dome-shaped house with a wickerwork frame, covered with grass siding.

**Great Bend Aspect:** The name archeologists have given to sites that share specific cultural traits of use and/or habitation by the ancestors of the Wichita.

**Greenhorn limestone:** Limestone from the Greenhorn Formation, which consists of alternating beds of chalky limestone and grayish shale, in the Smoky Hills region of Kansas.

**Grid:** A network of two sets of parallel lines that are at right angles to each other.

**Hackberry** (*Celtis* sp.): A kind of tree useful to the Pawnee people.

**Haft:** A handle.

**Harahey:** A land "to the north," described by Wichita Indians to Coronado in A.D. 1541, and assumed to be Pawnee territory.

**Harrow:** An agricultural implement, usually consisting of a frame of wood or metal set with spikes or sharpened disks. It is drawn over plowed land to level it and break the clods and to cover seed when sown.

**Hearth:** An open fire pit or fireplace.

**Heifer:** A young cow that has not given birth.

**Hemlock** (*Tsuga* sp.): A kind of evergreen tree of the pine family. Hemlock war clubs were part of the Pawnee Creation Story.

**Hen:** A female chicken.

**Hereditary:** Having title or possessions passed down by inheritance.

**Hide:** The skin of an animal, usually specially treated (tanned), so it can be used for clothing, equipment, or dwellings.

**Historical archeology:** Archeology of sites dating to the Historic period for which historical documentation exists.

**Historic preservation:** The study, identification, protection, restoration, and rehabilitation of buildings, structures, objects, districts, areas, and sites significant in the history, architecture, archeology, or culture of a place.

**History:** The branch of knowledge that deals systematically with the past; a recording, analyzing, co-ordinating, and explaining of past events.

**Hogan:** A Navajo earth-covered lodge. In the Navajo language, the word "hogan" means "home place."

**Holy Corn** (*rikis-paruk-sti*): Specially grown variety of corn for ceremonial purposes only.

**Homestead:** A home, including the land, house, and outbuildings, especially a place retained by successive generations.

**Homestead Act:** An act of Congress, passed in 1862, granting public land not to exceed 160 acres to any citizen or alien intending to become a citizen to be developed as a farm.

**Hoop and stick game:** A game played at various levels by Pawnee boys and men, consisting of rolling a hoop along the long game grounds and aiming at it with the stick or "spear." The game combined gambling with religious symbolism.

**Horn spoon:** Spoon made out of a bison horn outer shell, called the sheath.

**Horticulture:** Cultivation of gardens.

**Humidity:** The amount of moisture in the air.

**Hunt chief:** Experienced and respected Pawnee man who assumed the duties of organizing and administering a specific summer or winter bison hunt.

**Hydrated lime:** Lime combined with water.

**Hydraulics:** The branch of physics having to do with the mechanical properties of water and other liquids and with the application of these properties in engineering.

**Iglu** (also spelled igloo): An Eskimo house, often made of snow blocks in the shape of a dome. The Eskimo word "iglu" originally meant any permanent, roofed dwelling made of solid materials, i.e., a winter house.

**Immigration:** Coming into a new country, region, or environment in order to settle there.

**Indian grass** (*Sorghastrum nutans*): A warm-season prairie grass.

**Indian Territory:** Now the state of Oklahoma. By 1840 the area was subdivided and being settled by tribes forced to move from their traditional homelands.

**Indigenous:** Native; produced, growing, or living naturally in a country or climate.

**Informant:** One who gives information, especially someone with first-hand knowledge of a particular site, community, or time period.

**Inhumation:** Burying the dead with the flesh still on the bones.

**In situ:** A term referring to the undisturbed nature of an object found in the exact position in which it was deposited.

**Jeffersonian grid:** A system of land division, proposed by Thomas Jefferson and adopted by the United States in 1785, based on lines of latitude and longitude and subdivided into townships, sections, and quarter sections.

**Joinery:** Branch of the woodworking trades that deals with those internal and external fittings of a house that are put in place after the rough frame work and flooring are finished, such as floors, skirtings, doors, windows, stairways, etc.

**Joint:** As applies to both carpentry and masonry, the place where two structural members are joined.

**Kaw:** Also called the Kansa, a southwestern Siouan-speaking tribe.

**Kerosene:** Also called coal oil, a thin, quickly evaporating oil, distilled from petroleum and other hydrocarbons and used in lamps, stoves, engines, etc.

**Kiln:** A furnace or oven that may be heated for the purpose of hardening, burning, or drying anything.

**Kinnekasus** (Man-Never-Known-on-Earth): Supreme being of the Wichita Indians.

**Kinship:** Family relationship or close connection.

**Kitkehahki:** Also called Republican Band, one of the three South Bands of the Pawnee tribe. This group was called Republican by white explorers, who mistakenly recorded their system of government as a republic.

**Konza Prairie:** Natural prairie preserve near Manhattan, Kansas.

**Latitude:** The angular distance of any place on the globe north or south of the equator, measured in degrees.

**League:** A measure of distance, varying for different times and countries from about 2.4 to 4.6 miles (3.9-7.4 kilometers).

**Leather:** Animal skin prepared for use by removing the hair and tanning.

**Leggings:** A covering of leather for protecting the leg below the knee.

**Leghorn:** The main egg producing chicken in the United States.

**Lifeway:** A group's way of life, including its economy, social and political organization, belief system, etc.



**Lightnings:** One of the four Messengers of Evening Star and the natural element associated with the northwest direction in the Pawnee belief system.

**Lime:** Calcium oxide obtained by applying heat to limestone, shells, or other materials containing calcium carbonate.

**Limestone:** Rock composed of calcium carbonate from which building stones, lime, etc. are obtained.

**Linguist:** Anthropologist who studies the structure and development of language.

**Liniment:** An oily, medicated liquid preparation, applied to the skin to treat muscular aches, bruises, etc.

**Lintel:** Load-bearing beam that spans a door or window opening, sometimes called a cap.

**Loam:** A soil consisting of an easily crumbled mixture of clay, sand, and organic matter in varying proportions.

**Longhouse:** A general term for linear, multi-family dwellings, but particularly identified with Iroquoian buildings; recently applied to various traditional-style Indian meeting houses.

**Longitude:** Angular distance east or west on the earth's surface, measured by the angle (expressed in degrees up to 180 degrees in either direction), which the meridian passing through a particular place makes with a standard or prime meridian.

**Loup River:** A tributary of the Platte River in east-central Nebraska. A group of "permanent" but frequently moved Pawnee earthlodge villages centered around the confluence of the Loup and the Platte rivers during the nineteenth century.

**Lumber:** Timber sawed or split for use as beams, joists, boards, planks, staves, hoops, etc.

**Luxembourg:** A county in western Europe, bordered by Belgium on the west and north, Germany on the east, and France on the south.

**Mare:** An adult female horse.

**Masonry:** The art of shaping, arranging, and uniting stones or bricks to form the walls and other parts of structures.

**Material culture:** Everything made and/or used by humans. Clothing, food, dwellings, tools, and weapons are all material culture. Any natural material altered by human use is also material culture. An example of this is burned earth from the area near a hearth, since a natural material (soil) has been altered by a human activity (use of fire).

**Matrix:** The place or surrounding material within which something originates and develops.

**Medicine bundle:** See sacred bundle.

**Megafauna:** Large animals.

**Metaphor:** A figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another; for example, "All the world's a stage."

**Midden:** A trash heap or refuse deposit.

**Mixed-grass prairie:** A natural grassland community, dominated by non-woody plants. Little bluestem and sideoats gramma characterize the mixed-grass prairie that occupies a broad north-south belt in central and western Kansas, including the Smoky Hills region.

**Moccasin:** A heelless slipper, made of soft leather, without a stiff sole.

**Monoculture:** Cultivation of a single crop or product without using the land for other purposes.

**Morning Star:** God of the East and mate of Evening Star in the Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify this star as the planet Mars (at least part of the year).

**Mortar:** A deep stone receptacle or bowl in which seeds, grain, etc. are ground with a pestle. In building, a mixture of cement or lime with sand and water, used between bricks or stones or as plaster.

**Mortise and tenon joint:** A joint in which a projecting pin (tenon) fits tightly into a cut groove or hole (mortise).

**Mother Corn:** A major deity in the Pawnee belief system. Corn of an ancient breed was cultivated exclusively for its role as a holy object and placed in sacred bundles.

**Mountain lion:** Also called cougar, puma, or panther, a large cat of North American.

**Myth:** A traditional story, of unknown authorship ostensibly with a historical basis but serving usually to explain some phenomenon of nature, the origin of man, or the customs, institutions, religious rites, etc. of a people, usually involving the exploits of gods and heroes.

**Mythology:** A body of myths or the study of the meaning of myths and the relationship among the myths of different countries or peoples.

**National Folk architecture:** Made "by the people" in the practical form with (usually) no pretension to follow a formal architectural style.

**National Register of Historic Places:** List, kept by the National Park Service, of prehistoric and historic archeological sites and structures deemed to be significant and worthy of intensive investigation and/or preservation.

**Nebraska Phase:** Variant of the Central Plains Tradition along the Missouri River in eastern Kansas and eastern Nebraska.

**Net wire:** Also known as woven wire, chicken wire, or stock fencing, mesh fencing manufactured from interlocking strands of smooth wire.

**Nitrogen:** An odorless, colorless, tasteless gaseous chemical element, forming 4/5 of the atmosphere.

**Nomad:** Member of a tribe, nation, or race having no permanent home but constantly moving around in search of food, pasture, etc.

**Nuclear family:** A basic social unit, consisting of parents and their children, living in one household.

**Numina:** Group of beings who looked after all aspects of life and work in early Roman culture.

**Oak** (*Quercus* sp.): A hardwood tree or shrub that bears acorns and is present in the gallery forests of Kansas.

**Oñate** (Don Juan de): Spaniard who led a large expedition into south-central Kansas in 1601.

**Orientation:** Position with relation to the points of a compass.

**Osage:** An important southern Siouan tribe, often grouped with the Omaha, Ponca, Kansa, and Quapaw.

**Osage Orange** (*Maclura pomifera*): Also called bois d'arc (bow wood), a kind of mulberry tree used by Native Americans of the southeastern United States, including the Pawnee, to make bows and planted by farmers as hedgerows and used for fence posts.

**Ossuary:** Communal depository for bones of the dead.

**Outhouse:** An outdoor latrine, especially in a small building separate from but near the main house. See privy.

**Ox:** A mature castrated male bovine (steer), trained and used for draft purposes.

**Paleobotanist:** Scientist who studies prehistoric plants.

**Paleoethnobotanist:** Scientist who studies prehistoric plants and their relationship with people.

**Pampas:** Vast treeless plains of South America, especially Argentina.

**Pantheon:** The gods of a people, taken collectively.

**Parfleche:** A rectangular or square container made of rawhide and folded like a portfolio to store dried foods or to use as a suitcase. Parfleche means "for meat" in French.

**Pawnee:** A confederacy belonging to the Caddoan linguistic family. Groups migrated northwestward over a long period of time. In the sixteenth century four bands, Skidi, Grand, Tappage, and Republican, were settled in the Platte and Loup river valleys of Nebraska and along the Blue and Republican rivers in southern Nebraska and northern Kansas.

**Pemmican:** Dried lean meat, pounded into a paste with fat and sometimes dried pounded fruit and preserved in the form of pressed cakes.

**Percheron:** A strong, massive draft horse of French breed.

**Perennial:** A plant that lives more than two years whether it retains its leaves or not.

**Permeability:** Allowing the passage of fluids through a porous body.

**Persephone:** Greek goddess of spring (Roman Proserpine).

**Pestle:** Allowing the passage of fluids through a porous body.

**Photosynthesis:** Formation of carbohydrates in living plants from water and carbon dioxide by the action of sunlight on chlorophyll.

**Pier:** A heavy, usually square column, used to support weight at points of a structure.

**Piglet:** A little pig.

**Pinion:** A wing or flight feathers of a bird.

**Plains Indians:** Nomadic tribes of the North American grasslands who hunted buffalo, lived in portable hide tents, and did not farm. After A.D. 1600 they acquired the horse and sometimes raided the villages of settled tribes.

**Platte River:** A large river flowing west to east through central Nebraska. See also Loup River.

**Plum pit game:** Popular gambling game of Pawnee women, played with plum-seed dice tossed in a round coiled willow basket.

**Polyculture:** A farming practice that combines several kinds of plants in the same field.

**Pome:** Any fleshy fruit, containing a core and seeds, as the apple, pear, etc.

**Pommel:** The rounded, upward-projecting front part of a saddle.

**Pomona:** Roman goddess of orchards and gardens; originally one of the Numina.

**Portulaca** (*Portulacaceae*): Common trailing weed, sometimes called purslane or moss rose.

**Post and beam:** A structure framed with vertical posts and horizontal beams, usually with sloping roof members (rafters).

**Post oak** (*Quercus stellata*): Type of oak tree used by the Pawnee for pestles and eating bowls.

**Posthole pattern:** Arrangement of dark circular stains sometimes with charred remains of wood, indicating the former placement of structural support poles.

**Postrock limestone:** Also called fencepost limestone, chalky rock from the top layer of the Greenhorn formation, quarried for masonry stone and fence posts.

**Pottery:** Purposely shaped clay objects, including containers, which have been permanently hardened by heating in a kiln or open fire.

**Poultice:** A soft, moist mass applied to sores, inflamed parts of the body, etc.

**Prairie:** Grassland.

**Prairie cordgrass:** See cordgrass.

**Prehistoric:** Prior to written records.

**Prehistory:** The period before written history; in Kansas before A.D. 1541.

**Preservation:** The act of keeping safe or secure from harm, injury, decay, or destruction.

**Privy:** A toilet, especially in a small shelter outside of a house. See outhouse.

**Proserpine:** Roman goddess of spring (Greek Persephone).

**Protohistory:** The period of contact between Native Americans and Europeans; in Kansas about A.D. 1500-1800.

**Pullet:** A young hen, usually not more than a year old.

**Pumpkin** (*Cucurbita pepo*): Yellow-orange melon-like fruit of a vine of the gourd family. Pawnee gardeners cultivated it for food.

**Pumpkin mat:** Woven strips of dried pumpkin. Pieces could be torn off and eaten or cooked to make soups.

**Quillwork:** Use of porcupine spines for decoration by dyeing, flattening, and sewing them on leather items.

**Quivira:** Name given by Spanish explorers to south-central plains region of Kansas, thought to be land of gold and treasures. Inhabitants were known as Quivirans.

**Quoins:** The external corner stones of a wall or building, often dressed differently from the other stones in order to make them more prominent.

**Range:** In the United States land survey, a row of townships lying between two consecutive meridians, which are six miles apart.

**Rattle:** A musical instrument used in most Pawnee ceremonies. Commonly made from gourds with pebbles inside, the rattles were decorated with incising and feathers and/or wrapped with a hide cover.

**Rawhide:** Untanned animal skin used as cordage or for some types of clothing or equipment, such as a parfleche.

**Raze:** To tear down completely.

**Receipt:** A recipe.

**Rectilinear:** Characterized, bounded, or formed by straight lines; a structure with 90-degree corners, both in plan and section.

**Rectilinear cadastral grid:** Straight-line grid, relating to public record of the extent, value, or ownership of land for taxation.

**Red Star:** A southeastern star associated with that direction in Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify this star as Antares.

**Republican Pawnee:** See *Kitkehahki*.

**Rhizome:** Also called a rootstock, an underground stem that takes root at the joints. This method allows a plant to expand by cloning.

**Rice (*Oryza sativa*):** Plant of the grass family, cultivated in all warm climates, especially in Asia; also the starchy grains or seeds of this grass, used as food.

**Roach:** A hairpiece, usually of horse hair, worn by Pawnee men to augment their own hair along the top of the head.

**Rod:** A measurement of length equal to 5½ yards or 16½ feet.

**Rondavel:** Structure with low walls and a conical roof.

**Rooster:** A male chicken.

**Rural:** Of or characteristic of the country, as distinguished from cities and towns.

**Sacred bundle:** A leather-bound collection of objects with sacred purposes, used ritually to communicate with the gods.

**Sauerkraut:** Chopped cabbage, preserved in a brine of its own juice and salt.

**Scaffold:** A temporary elevated wooden platform. Some Native Americans used scaffolds to expose the dead to the elements but out of reach of scavengers before burial.

**Scapula:** Shoulder blade.

**Scapula hoe:** A gardening implement made from shoulder blade of bison, attached with sinew to a wooden handle.

**Scraper:** Chipped stone tool used for rubbing surfaces to clean or smooth them and for cutting.

**Section:** In land surveying, a division of lands constituting 640 acres or 1/36 of a township.

**Sedge:** Any of several grass-like plants of the genus *Carex*, found in the northern and temperate parts of the earth; they are distinguished from grasses by having no joints in the stems.

**Semiaridity:** State of being partially dry or parched.

**Semi-autonomous:** Independent in some aspects of government.

**Semicardinal directions:** Northwest, northeast, southeast, and southwest. Each direction is associated with a specific plant, animal, wood, natural element, season, color, and ceremony in the Pawnee belief system.

**Seral plant:** Plant that expends its energy on seed production and thrives in a monoculture.

**Sherd:** A broken piece of pottery, specifically a fragment of a broken pottery vessel.

**Shoat:** A young hog able to feed alone.

**Short-grass prairie:** A natural grassland community, dominated by non-woody plants. Blue grammas and buffalograss characterize the short-grass prairie that occupies a broad north-south belt in western Kansas.

**Sideoats gramma (*Bouteloua curtipendula*):** A warm season native grass, found on a variety of range sites.

**Silage:** Green fodder preserved in a silo. See ensilage.

**Silo:** An airtight pit or tower in which green fodder is prepared and kept.

**Sinew:** Tendon or tough band of connective tissue. Native Americans used sinew from the leg of a bison as thread.

**Sioux:** Also called Dakota, the largest division of the Siouan language family. These nomadic Plains Indians sometimes raided earthlodge villages.

**Site:** Any location of past human activity, evidenced by the remains of that activity.

**Skidi Pawnee:** Also called Wolf Pawnee, the largest band of the Pawnee confederacy.

**Smoky Hill Aspect:** Variant of the Central Plains Tradition in eastern and north-central Kansas.

**Smoky Hills:** The geographical region of north-central Kansas with uplands composed of layers of Cretaceous-age rocks, including sandstones, limestones, and chalk.

**Sod:** The surface layer of the prairie earth, containing the grass plants and their matted roots.

**South Bands:** Republican, Tappage, and Grand bands of the Pawnee.

**Sow (sou):** An adult female pig.

**Sow (sō):** To scatter or plant seed.

**Space frame:** A structure supported by a frame that encloses the interior space.

**Span:** An architectural member between two supports, as a bridge.

**Spatial context:** The relationship between a particular location and all of the universe.

**Spring Awakening:** Also called First Thunder, a spring ceremony held by the Pawnee to awaken plants and animals.

**Squash** (*Cucurbita pepo*): Fleshy fruit of a trailing vine of the gourd family, cultivated by the Pawnee.

**Stallion:** An adult male horse, used for breeding.

**Star cult:** Astronomically-based beliefs of the Pawnee.

**Steer:** A young castrated male bovine.

**Steppes:** Extensive, relatively treeless plains of southeastern Europe and Asia.

**Stonemason:** Person who cuts stone to shape and uses it in making walls, buildings, etc.

**Storage pit:** See cache pit.

**Stratification:** Arranged in layers or, in the case of a society, in hierarchical classes or ranks.

**Subsistence:** That which supplies the means of support or livelihood.

**Suburban:** Characteristic of a residential district on the outskirts of a city.

**Succulent:** Having juicy tissues.

**Sumac** (*Rhus* sp.): Shrub or woody vine whose leaves, bark, roots, and fruits were used by the Pawnee for dye, tanning, medicine, etc.

**Sunflower** (*Helianthus annuus*): A native annual herb, domesticated by the Native Americans, for its edible oil-rich seeds.

**Sustainable agriculture:** The use of land through careful farming practices to maintain continuous yields of crops without harming the soil, water, air, and other parts of nature.

**Swimming Ducks:** Two small stars along the northeastern horizon in early spring. Astronomers identify these stars as Lambda and Upsilon Scorpio.

**Switchgrass** (*Panicum virgatum*): A warm season grass found in moister areas of the tall-grass prairie.

**Sycamore** (*Platanus occidentalis*): A tree common to the woodlands in the eastern part of Kansas.

**Tall-grass prairie:** A natural grassland community, dominated by non-woody plants. Big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, and switchgrass characterize the tall-grass prairie that occupies a broad north-south belt in eastern Kansas, including the Flint Hills region.

**Tall tale:** Oral folk (vernacular) tradition in the form of an exaggerated story.

**Tanning:** The process of making leather from hides.

**Tappage Pawnee:** One of the three South Bands of the Pawnee tribe.

**Tattoo:** A permanent mark on a person's skin, made by pricking in coloring matter or by producing scars.

**Taxonomy:** Scientific classification system, especially for plants, animals, etc., according to their natural relationships.

**Temporal context:** The relationship between a particular point in time and all of the time, past, present, and future.

**Tensile strength:** Resistance to lengthwise stress.

**Terrace:** Any of a series of flat platforms of earth with sloping sides, rising one above the other as on a hillside or bordering a river.

**Terrain:** A portion of land, especially considered with regard to its natural features or fitness for some particular purpose.

**Thunders:** One of four Messengers of Evening Star and the natural element associated with the northeast direction in the Pawnee belief system.

**Timber:** Wood suitable for building houses; large pieces of dressed wood.

**Timber Act:** An act of Congress, passed in 1873, granting a quarter section of public land to any person who planted 40 acres of timber and kept it in healthy growing condition for 10 years.

**Time line:** A line upon which intervals of time are marked so that events can be added in chronological order and seen in relationship to one another.

**Tipi** (also spelled tepee): A conical tent made of tanned bison hides, sewn together and stretched over a framework of poles.

**Tirawa:** The sun, the supreme deity in the Pawnee belief system.

**Toboggan:** A narrow, flat sled without runners, made of thin boards curved back at the front and often having side rails.

**Topnot:** A tuft of hair on the crown of the head.

**Topography:** Configuration of surface features, including relief and position of hills, valleys, rivers, etc.

**Torpid:** Having lost temporarily the power of motion or sensation, as in a hibernating animal; dormant or inactive.

**Township:** A unit of territory in the United States land survey, generally 36 miles square, containing 36-mile-square sections and sometimes under the control of a local governmental body.

**Travols:** A primitive vehicle of the Plains Indians, attached to a dog or horse to drag heavy loads. It consisted of two trailing poles, serving as shafts and bearing a platform or net for the load.

**Truss:** A structural element made up of a number of members, usually to support a roof.

**Turkey foot:** Nickname for big bluestem grass because the plant's seed head forms three spikes that resemble a turkey's foot.

**Upper Republican Phase:** Variant of the Central Plains Tradition in the Republican River country of Nebraska and western Kansas. Anthropologists once thought that the Upper Republican peoples were the prehistoric Pawnee.

**Urban:** Of or characteristic of the city, as distinguished from the country.

**Vernacular architecture:** Constructed by local crafts people, using locally available building materials.

**Vertumnis:** Roman god of the changing seasons; also sometimes god of developing vegetation. Originally one of the Roman Numina, who together with Pomona served as protector of orchards and gardens.

**Village site:** An archeological deposit resulting from a large or prolonged human settlement. Village sites are often extensive and frequently "rich" in artifacts and other habitation debris, including structural remains.

**Wainscoting:** Paneling of wood on the walls of a room.

**Warrior society:** An organization of warriors affiliated with a specific animal.

**Water table:** The level below which the ground is saturated with water.

**Watermelon (*Citrullus vulgaris*):** Large oval fruit (with thick green rind, red pulp, and many seeds) of a vine, grown by Pawnee gardeners in historic times.

**Watershed:** High ridge dividing the areas drained by different rivers or river systems; the area drained by a river or river system.

**Wattle-and-daub:** A walling method, employed predominately by Southeastern and Southwestern Indian tribes, which uses a frame of upright or interwoven slender saplings to hold mud fill.

**Weanling:** A young horse recently forced to stop suckling.

**Wheat:** Any of a number of related cereal grasses of the genus *Triticum*; also the seeds of the grasses used for making flour, cereals, etc.

**White Star:** A southwestern star associated with that direction in the Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify this star as Vega.

**Wichita:** An American Indian confederacy of Caddoan-speaking people, probably related to the Pawnee. The Wichita have been identified historically with the Quivirans that the Coronado expedition encountered in south-central Kansas in 1541. Archeologists have designated their prehistoric ancestors as the Great Bend Aspect.

**Wickerwork:** Thin flexible twigs or saplings woven into a form.

**Wigwam:** A general term for a domical dwelling, framed with saplings and covered with mats or bark, built principally by woodland Indians of the Northeast and Great Lakes.

**Wikiup:** A specific term for the domical winter dwelling of the Kickapoo Indians; also a name for the traditional-style Apache dwelling.

**Wildcat (*Lynx rufus*):** A medium-sized undomesticated North American cat, such as the bobcat and lynx.

**Willow** (*Salix* sp.): A kind of tree associated with the southeast direction in the Pawnee belief system. The flexible branches were used for the radials and rings that reinforced the smokehole portion of the earthlodge roof.

**Wind sock:** A long, cone-shaped cloth bag attached to a pole to show the direction of the wind.

**Winds:** One of the four Messengers of Evening Star and the natural element associated with the southwest direction in the Pawnee belief system.

**Woven wire:** See net wire.

**X-Unit:** Abbreviation for excavation unit in the record system of the Kansas State Historical Society Archeology Office.

**Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*): A plant having a strong smell and taste, finely divided leaves, and clusters of small pink or white flowers.

**Yearling:** A one-year-old animal.

**Yellow Star:** A northwestern star associated with that direction in the Pawnee belief system. Astronomers identify the Yellow Star as Capella.

**Zeus:** Most powerful of the Greek gods, god of thunder and lightning.





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### Internet Resources

A wealth of information is available through the Internet, but the quality of the material varies greatly and is often difficult to evaluate. You must be discriminating. Here are a few reliable addresses that will lead you to many other sites.

AnthroLink at <http://www.buckley.pvt.k12.ca.us/AnthroLink>

ArchNet at <http://www.lib.uconn.edu/ArchNet>

Kansas State Historical Society at <http://history.cc.ukans.edu/heritage/kshs/kshs1.html>

Link to archaeology/anthropology web sites at

[www.sscf.ucsb.edu/anth/alpha.gifs/netinfo2.html#arch](http://www.sscf.ucsb.edu/anth/alpha.gifs/netinfo2.html#arch)

National Park Service at <http://www.nps.gov/>

Smithsonian Institution at <http://www.si.edu/>

Society for American Archaeology at <http://www.saa.org>

University of Michigan site for environmental education at <http://eelink.umich.edu>

